

Aug 12, 1851

Isaac Singer was granted a  
patent in his sewing machine

1851

Dr John Gorrie received U.S. patent on his ice machine, but his chief financial backer died.

Without funds Gorrie retreated to Apalachicola where he awaited word on a patent for his other innovation, the air-conditioning process. It never came.

Suffering from a nervous collapse

and devastated by failure, he  
died in 1855 at age 51.

Sep 18, 1851

The first edition of the New York  
Times was published.

Dec 24, 1851

A fire in the Library of Congress  
destroyed about 2/3rds of its  
50,000 volumes, including  
most of the collection purchased  
from Thomas Jefferson in 1815.

1851

London's Crystal Palace designed  
by Joseph Paxton for the Great Exhibition  
of 1851

It stood for more than 80  
yrs until fire destroyed it in  
1930's

1851

80

1931

About 1932

Dec 29, 1851

The first American Young Men's Christian Association, the YMCA, was organized in Boston, Mass.

Nr 14, 1851

Herman Melville's novel "Moby-Dick"  
was published

Dec. 24, 1851

Fire devastated the Library of  
Congress in Washington, D.C.  
destroying about 39,000 volumes.